

10-20-1889

Ida to Aunt Laura, October 20, 1889

Ida Honoré Grant

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Oct 20th / 1889

Dear Aunt Laura
I am sure that you quite un-
derstand why I have not
written to you before, to ex-
press the thanks I felt
for all the nice things.
I have been too busy to
write but not too busy
to enjoy the gifts and
show them off to - I
am in the best of health

The Blue silk Curtains
on the bed they were ori-
ginally intended for as
they look A beautiful
for it and are not just
exactly the shade of blue
I am putting in my bedroom
which is to be also in
blue. We have a lovely rug
made here for it and I
have about decided on
some new kind of thin
Curtains in stripes for it.

And some soft silk curtains for
shades the shade of our rug
with fringe in the colors that
are in the rug. Today is the anniversary
of our wedding the 15th. Julia who
remembers these things gave us each some
flowers with our breakfast this morning
and Capt. & Mrs. Stein - the Military attaché
come to dinner in a few moments. We are
quite informal with them, strange to say,

He was in God's Class at West Point and she
was at the Concert with me. Tomorrow we
are to have a call from Carter with his Lu-
dians of the "Red America" who have expressed
a desire to come. I am a little afraid of
them, they look so fierce but will give them
a little ice-cream to keep them amiable.

I have also taken in about ten Ameri-
cans to look at them. Among the young
physicians studying here, is Dr. Crosby, the

4th Brother of Lina Harrison's
Ambassador. ^{Mrs Crowley} She is also, the
Niece of General Gordon's wife
& rather interesting — After re-
ceiving the Ludean's Commission
I take Mrs Chew and Mr Stein
to be presented to the Spanish
Ambassador in Ceremony
which has been arranged and
appointed by passage of letters
and the choosing of the time
of the Ambassador —

I have almost gotten settled
now except for the Curtains
which I supposed would be
finished first of all. I am

having the Japanese cloth
gold made as portiere for
the parlor-doors. We have
been trying to persuade him to
come over, but think he'll
put his visit off until later.

We also, expect Ellie very
soon that is as soon as her
own new home is thoroughly
settled in London - she expects
to come before - She will not
give it up here as our soci-
ety is of serious official kind
not the dining and luncheon
that she is accustomed to.

my in London life. I am to have a French teacher
every day for a while as I should like to be perfected in
the language. Though I am most grateful to hear
I speak it as well as I do as this is the society language.
Here on the other hand is giving his attention to German
as he wishes so much to read it - and understand the
Correspondence in the language. - The Chev's seen my wife, he
kisses & accepts years in state & the young very well and
quite good-looking. - They have given me furnished apartments
of one of the British Attaché's & his Mrs leaving. They have also new
carriage & horses. - I am just having our liveries made now, pretty
blue with green trimmings, cockades red & white & blue. Which is the
trim for the minister to carry his colors in the bry. - It seems
an expectation for us to get a carriage immediately but it
must be for looks if nothing else. About those things one
can't be independent here. - We are forced into having carriage
and living & make calls etc. I was so glad to hear from Sig
that the Emperors are looking so handsomely. I suppose he

9th
" really has a great deal
besides his \$17000 a year.

I hope when he resigns as
he says he is going to do the
Harrison & Blaine will
not think that Grant ~~shall~~
do the same, as we are not
so anxious to the relief of
this place as I hear Mr L.
is of his. Although our salary
is not any too large for the
requirements of the position
still it is much better than
having very little at home
where almost as much is ex-

pected of us for as far as Tads
position goes it is about the
same many when and the
things expected of us, only here
the state must be kept up and
there is more marked difference
in attention paid to those
who have position here. The
people look with awe upon any
one in any way connected
with the Court. It is rather
amusing to us - The driving
and deference, when we go
to the Opera all carriages are
stopped for ours (not that we
go much for this very peaudant
offices no to take a boy

long time at 25 fls instead of getting them for 100 fls
or more to have a few - much later in the season.
Mr. My fortune along, the shop keeps in order behind
at my presence, but then again has to ludicrous side as
these attentions and deference are in proportion to the
high prices they put on every thing for me, as I am a Quaker
can especially - so I must suffer to get out unknown
when I really must buy any thing - I am delighted at
have keeping - Of course could not manage this first
month as well as I hope to later on - The cooks in this
country do all the marketing and so on, their bills
each week are made out in German and for may see
how I have to keep my own eyes open, to come out even. Then
the butlers always claim the privilege of buying fruit and
other smaller things and I simply must take when I think
of his accounts but I am gradually getting ahead of
them they are rather surprised at an American woman's cari-
city and also that there is one who is not rolling in wealth
even thing is made better to an American than

18th
I have had the greatest
possible help in all my
pains by Mrs Beldy an old
woman, who was in Mrs
Drum's family for 20 years.
As soon as we got the ^{of the} news
Mr Childs Mr Drum
and Mrs D. wrote me and
told me all about her and
told her to come and do
all she possibly could for me,
so did also George Drum
Mrs Nurse she was out from
the address. The Drums got her
when they were here once, many
years ago. George was an infant

By all, this nurse behaved badly
and Madresel found this
gentle woman who went home
when then thought George had
him in her room until he
was about 14 then after that
she helped Mrs D keep house but
becoming old she returned
with enough money saved to
live on that is Mr Ched's
took me Mr Madresel paid her
800 interest - she tells
me all about servants got me
a splendid cook, Chamberlain
who speaks French with the
children etc - she knows
all their ways and makes me
independent of them in under-

standing more than they think I do -

My cook is really very good & thoroughly American
but makes some French and American dishes. The
Smelter is excellent a little ~~too~~ smart and cunning. Thinks I
am as rich as Mrs Roosevelt. My father cannot live without
an assistant and the Cook will not work without a ^{Kitchen} ~~Chamber~~
maid and the Chambermaid would not wash - wisdom for any
house in the world so house wifes are better here than in N.Y.
We make up all that in numerous employments. My house looks
just like the one in Morristown and for my mother was seeing
two one - I am most grateful for the letters from Halletts
the boys at home - Fred and I have been so busy that it seems
impossible to find time to write just yet - then our American
friends have been very nice - letters from Mr & Mrs Charles Abner
Huyghe Beal and others are waiting - We have had
a great deal of entertaining even to the Indians of the
"Wild America" - and all that is about over - We now go
into official calls - the Danish Ambassador wife & daughter came
yesterday - they are all persons but more stately and grand
than the Prince of Wales - do write often affectionately
Edna -